

VP-RDF: An RDF Based Framework to Introduce the Viewpoint in the Description of Resources

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Abstract – The description of resources and their relationships is an essential task on the web. Generally, the web users do not share the same interests and viewpoints. Each user wants that the web provides data and information according to their interests and specialty. The existing query languages, which allow querying data on the web, cannot take into consideration the viewpoint of the user. We propose introducing the viewpoint in the description of the resources. The Resource Description Framework (RDF) represents a common framework to share data and describe resources. In this study, we aim at introducing the notion of the viewpoint in the RDF. Therefore, we propose a View-Point Resource Description Framework (VP-RDF) as an extension of RDF by adding new elements. The existing query languages (e.g., SPARQL) can query the VP-RDF graphs and provide the user with data and information according to their interests and specialty. Therefore, VP-RDF can be useful in intelligent systems on the web.

Keywords – Resource Description Framework (RDF), SPARQL, web resource, viewpoint.

I. INTRODUCTION

A web resource is anything, which we can be found on the World Wide Web [1]. It can include text documents, HTML pages [2], e-mails, videos, traditional databases, flat files, knowledge bases, topical content and programs [3].

A web resource appears in many contexts (e.g., semantic web, linked data and internet of things). The Semantic Web [4] allows treating the semantics in the web resource. It provides some technologies (e.g., Resource Description Framework (RDF)), which allow describing the web resources and their semantic properties [5], [6].

The vision of the Semantic Web is to extend the principles of the Web from documents to data [7]. Then, linked data [8], [9] has emerged.

Linked data allow publishing structured data that can be connected together. This also necessitates the exploitation of a common framework (e.g., RDF) [7]. This allows data to be shared [7]. RDF allows defining and describing the relations among data (i.e., resources) in linked data.

Polleres *et al.* in [10] have indicated that, “Linked Data promises that a large portion of Web Data will be usable as one big interlinked RDF database”. There are several tools to query data, which are described through such relationships in the RDF model. SPARQL [11] is one of these tools.

Generally, the web users do not share the same interests and the same viewpoints about resources and the relationships between them. Therefore, each user wants that the web provides data and information according to their interests and specialty. However, the web cannot provide the user with data and information according to their interests and specialty because the existing query languages cannot take into consideration the viewpoint in the data querying on the web. For example, in the real estate site, a user wants to know all the existing properties of an apartment that describe its size without citing these properties (e.g., height, area, the number of rooms, etc.). The user is interested only in information about the size. The existing tools provide user with all properties of this apartment without filtering (e.g., height, area, the number of rooms, price, rent, location, etc.). Then, the user will select responses that belong to their interests.

The introduction of the viewpoint in the data querying does not give results. We think that it is preferable to introduce the viewpoint in the description of the resources.

In this paper, we are interested in the problem of the integration of the viewpoint in the description of the web resources (data) and their relationships in the context of semantic web, linked data and even the internet of things.

RDF represents a foundation technology for semantic web and linked data. Therefore, we aim at introducing the notion of the viewpoint in RDF. We will propose VP-RDF (View-Point Resource Description Framework) as an extension of RDF by adding new elements. VP-RDF allows introducing the viewpoint in the description of the resources (data) and their relationships.

In the following section, we present a state of art on the notion of the viewpoint. Then, in Section 3, we explain the framework of VP-RDF that we propose. After that, in Section 4 we apply the proposed framework to some use cases. Section 5 presents the document querying that is constructed with VP-RDF. Section 6 provides some results of the research and some areas for future work.

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II. STATE OF THE ART

Different definitions of the notion of the viewpoint have been proposed by different authors.

Some of them assume that the viewpoint corresponds to the perception of an object according to the observer's position (e.g., the work in [12]). In this case, Djama and Boufaida [2] have given an example of symbol '9': the observer, who is in the up position, sees number 6 and who is in the down position, sees number 9.

Some other authors consider the viewpoint as a partial definition of an object (e.g., the work in [2], [13]–[17]). This partial definition describes only some set of properties of this object.

For example, in the real estate domain [2], the object *apartment* is defined according to viewpoint *Finance* by the properties: *rent*, *price*, etc. These properties represent a subset of all the properties of the object *apartment*. Therefore, these properties represent a partial definition of the object *apartment*. The constraints on the value of the property *price* allow creating two concepts: *expensive apartment* and *cheap apartment*. These two concepts are linked to the viewpoint *Finance*.

Another example, in the real estate domain also, the object *tenant* is defined according to viewpoint *Finance* by the properties: *salary*, etc. Therefore, we can obtain the concept *rich tenant* that is linked to the viewpoint *Finance*.

In the assertion "*rich tenant lives in expensive apartment*", the relation *lives* will be defined according to viewpoint *Finance*.

Before presenting the related work, we explain the difference between Viewpoint, Context and Opinion in the following subsection.

A. Difference Between Viewpoint, Context and Opinion

There are two other notions that are near the notion of the viewpoint: "*opinion*" and "*context*".

The opinion is a judgment based on non-rational arguments that are related to feelings [18]. For example, "*For me, England is the most beautiful country*". However, the viewpoint is a judgment based on rational arguments.

For example, viewpoint 1: "*This apartment is an expensive apartment because its price is very height*". Viewpoint 2: "*It is a large apartment because its area is very large*". The two viewpoints speak on the same apartment. Viewpoint 1 is interested in the finance. However, Viewpoint 2 is interested in the size.

The context is a judgment based on rational arguments that represent a set of conditions [19]–[24].

For example, there are two types of geometry: Euclidean geometry (the geometry of 2D) and solid geometry (the geometry of 3D or Euclidean space). Euclidean geometry and solid geometry represent two contexts. The condition of Euclidean geometry: the objects are defined by only two dimensions. However, in solid geometry, there are other conditions.

In the context of Euclidean geometry, parallel lines cannot intersect. However, they can intersect in the context of solid geometry.

B. Related Work

Several works have been realised on the notion of the viewpoint. Some of them are interested in the integration of the viewpoint in the ontology (e.g., [14], [15], [25]–[32]).

Hemam *et al.* [33] have developed a method that allows coupling the notion of the viewpoint and the notion of the composite concepts in the ontology. Then, Hemam in [34] has introduced the probabilistic reasoning in this method.

Djezzar and Boufaida [35] are interested in the classification of an individual in an ontology. This ontology allows taking into consideration the viewpoint to represent knowledge.

Djakhdjakha *et al.* [36] have developed a method that aligns ontologies, which allow representing the notion of the viewpoint.

Djama and Boufaida [2] have developed an approach that allows acquiring the instances of concepts from a text resource. These concepts are defined in the ontology that allows representing the viewpoint (the multi-viewpoint ontology).

Djama and Boufaida [37], [38] have proposed an approach that allows using multi-viewpoints ontology to annotate an XML document.

All these works are interested in the representation of the viewpoint in the ontology. However, ontology is a kind of dictionary for the web. It is not always obligatory to refer to an ontology to describe a resource on the web.

Sometimes, it suffices to use a simple framework (e.g., RDF) to describe a resource. However, there is no work in the literature that allows introducing the notion of the viewpoint in RDF.

III. REPRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

VP-RDF is an extension of the RDF, where we propose adding new elements. These elements are:

- (1) Viewpoint: a specific resource, where the set of viewpoints represent subset of RDF resources.
- (2) Predicate_with_Viewpoint: a specific predicate that expresses a relationship between the subject (an RDF resource) and a viewpoint.
- (3) VP-RDF triplet (Subject, Predicate, Object). The Subject is an RDF resource that is different from Viewpoint. The Predicate is instance of Predicate_with_Viewpoint. The Object is an instance of Viewpoint.

Therefore, VP-RDF is based on the following foundations:

- (1) Viewpoint;
- (2) Predicate_with_Viewpoint;
- (3) The principle of VP-RDF triplets;
- (4) URI (Uniform resource identifier);
- (5) The principle of the classical RDF triplets (Subject, Predicate, Object). The Subject and the Object are RDF resources that are different from Viewpoint. The Predicate is different from instances of Predicate_with_Viewpoint;
- (6) The principle of the graphs.

Thus, VP-RDF is based on the idea of making two types of statements: the classical RDF statement (Subject, Predicate, Object) and the new type of statement that we propose. The latter is composed of (Subject, Predicate_with_Viewpoint, Viewpoint).

In the following subsections, we present the formalization of the VP-RDF triplets, the vocabulary of the VP-RDF framework and the implementation of the VP-RDF elements.

A. Formalization of the VP-RDF Triplets

According to Patel-Schneider [39], the semantics of an RDF triplet can be translated into a first-order logic formula by using conjunctive, existential quantification and binary predicate.

$$\exists Subject, \exists Object : predicate(Subject, Object)$$

Likewise, we can translate a VP-RDF triplet into a first-order logic formula as follows:

$$\exists Subject, \exists Viewpoint : Predicate_with_Viewpoint(Subject, Viewpoint)$$

B. Vocabulary of the VP-RDF

VP-RDF supports the same set of RDF/RDFS classes and properties (e.g., rdf:List, rdfs:Resource, rdfs:Literal, rdf:type,

rdfs:domain, etc.) plus new classes and properties that we propose to represent the viewpoint.

The proposed classes (Table I) are:

- (1) **VPrdf:Viewpoint**: a proposed class that allows defining the set of the viewpoints.
- (2) **VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint**: a proposed class that allows defining the property that links a resource to the viewpoint.
- (3) **VPrdf:Statement**: the proposed class that allows defining the VP-RDF triplet.

The proposed properties are:

- (1) VPrdf:Subject_Statement,
- (2) VPrdf:Predicate_Statement, and
- (3) VPrdf:Object_Statement.

These properties (Table II) allow defining the components of VPrdf:Statement, where:

- VPrdf:Predicate_Statement is an instance of VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint;
- VPrdf:Object_Statement is an instance of VPrdf:Viewpoint.

TABLE I
VP-RDF CLASSES

Class	Description	Definition by the RDF vocabulary
VPrdf:Viewpoint	The class of Viewpoints	Subclass of “rdfs:Resource”
VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint	The class of the property “Predicate_with_Viewpoint”	Subclass of “rdf:Property”
VPrdf:Statement	The class of the VPrdf statements	Subclass of “rdf:Statement”

TABLE II
VP-RDF PROPERTIES

Property	Domain	Range
VPrdf:Subject_Statement	VPrdf:Statement	rdfs:Resources
VPrdf:Predicate_Statement	VPrdf:Statement	VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint
VPrdf:Object_Statement	VPrdf:Statement	VPrdf:Viewpoint

C. Implementation of the VP-RDF Elements

The VP-RDF elements are defined as subclasses of RDFS/RDF elements. The VP-RDF elements will be implemented in RDFS language. In this section, we show an example of the implementation of a VP-RDF class and an example of the implementation of a VP-RDF property.

Below, we show the implementation of VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint as a subclass of rdf:Property in RDFS language.

```
<rdfs:Class rdf:ID="Predicate_with_Viewpoint">
  <rdfs:subClassOf
rdf:resource="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#Property"/>
</rdfs:Class>
```

Below, we show the implementation, in RDFS language, of the property VPrdf:Object_Statement as RDF Property that has domain VPrdf:Statement and range VPrdf:Viewpoint.

```
<rdf:Property
rdf:about="VPrdf:Object_Statement">
<rdfs:domain
rdf:resource="#VPrdf:Statement"/>
<rdfs:range rdf:resource=
"#VPrdf:Viewpoint"/>
</rdf:Property>
```

VPrdf:Statement and VPrdf:Viewpoint are implemented as subclasses of rdf:Statement and rdfs:Resource.

D. Syntax of the VP-RDF Document

We exploit the VP-RDF elements and the RDF elements to create a VP-RDF document. Gryaznov and Rusakov [40] have

assumed that the apparent advantage of XML syntaxes is compatibility with existing XML tools and technologies (parsers, editors, XSLT, XQuery and XPath). We adopt the XML syntaxes to describe the structure of the VP-RDF document. The latter is a list of descriptions of resources by taking into the consideration the viewpoints. Each representation is announced via the `< VPrdf: Viewpoint_Description>` tag.

To represent the VP-RDF elements, we propose the name space “VPrdf”. Each `< VPrdf: Viewpoint_Description>` is defined by either the VP-RDF statements or RDF statements. The basic VP-RDF XML serialization syntax is represented as follows:

```
[1] RDF ::= ['<rdf:RDF>'] Viewpoint_Description *
['</rdf:RDF>']
[2] Viewpoint_Description ::=
'<VPrdf:Viewpoint_Description
idAboutAttr?'>' Predicate with Viewpoint *
'</VPrdf:Viewpoint_Description'
| '<VPrdf:Viewpoint_Description
idAboutAttr?'>' Predicate *
'</VPrdf:Viewpoint_Description'
[3] idAboutAttr ::= idAttr | aboutAttr
[4] aboutAttr ::= 'about="' URI-reference '''
[5] idAttr ::= 'ID="' IDsymbol '''
[6] Predicate_with_Viewpoint ::= '<' propName '>'
value '</' propName '>'
| '<VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint'
resourceAttrViewpoint'>'
[7] Predicate ::= '<' propName '>' value '</'
propName '>'
| '<rdf:Predicate' resourceAttr'>'
[8] resourceAttr ::= 'resource="' URI-reference '''
[9] resourceAttrViewpoint ::= 'resource="' URI-
reference '''
[10] URI-reference ::= string, interpreted per [URI]
[11] IDsymbol ::= (any legal XML name symbol)
[12] name ::= (any legal XML name symbol)
[13] Nsprefix ::= (any legal XML namespace prefix)
[14] string ::= (any XML text, with "<", ">", and
"&" escaped)
```

IV. USE CASES

In this section, we present the application of our approach to some examples (as demonstrations). These examples represent all the existing simple cases of the description resources by taking into consideration the viewpoints. Then, the other cases are the combination between these cases.

There are five principal cases to link the description of resources to the viewpoint:

A. Case 1: Resource Linked to a Given Viewpoint

Example 1: In the real estate domain, the resource “*Large_Apartment*” is defined in the *Size* viewpoint. This case will be represented as follows.

(*<Large_Apartment>*, *<defined_in>*, *<Size>*)

This case represents a relation between a resource and a viewpoint. It is represented by a VP-RDF triplet (statement).

B. Case 2: A Resource Linked to Several Viewpoints

Example: in the real estate domain, the resource “*Tenant*” is defined according to the *Size* viewpoint and *Finance* viewpoint. This case will be represented by a graph composed of two triplets. The first one is represented as follows:

(*<Tenant>*, *<defined_according_to>*, *<Size>*)

The second one is represented as follows:

(*<Tenant>*, *<belong_to>*, *<Finance>*)

In this case, the subject of the first triplet represents the subject of the second triplet. This example will be represented in VP-RDF (see Fig. 1).

This case is represented by a graph that is composed of two VP-RDF triplets.

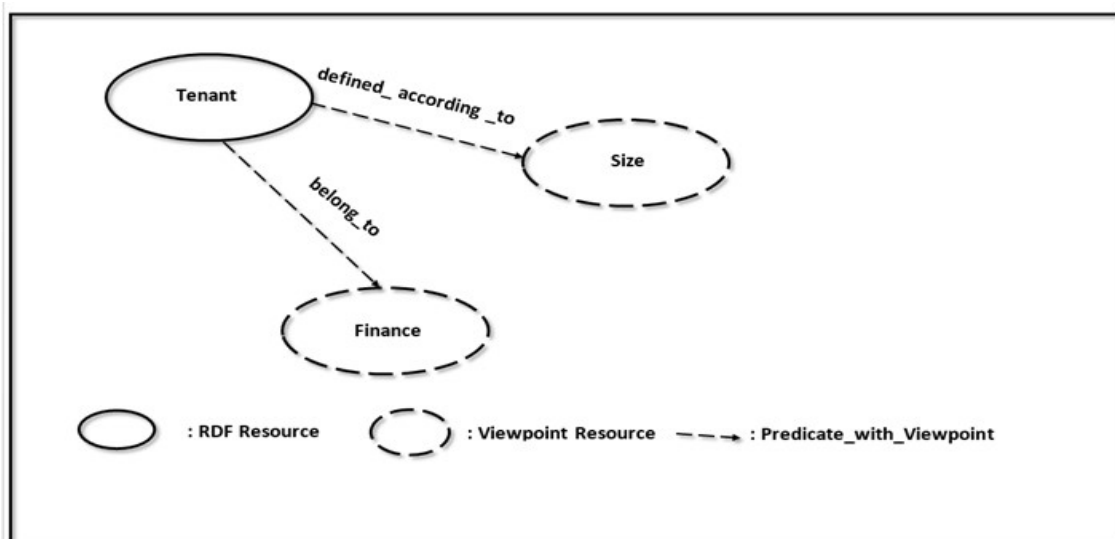


Fig. 1. RDF graph representation of an example of Case 2: a resource linked to several viewpoints.

C. Case 3: A Resource Has a Property with a Resource. The Latter Is Linked to a Viewpoint

Example: In the education domain, the resource “*Jacque*” is described by the resource “*Associate_Professor*”. The resource “*Associate_Professor*” is linked to the viewpoint “*University_Education*”. This case will be represented by a graph composed of two triplets. The first one is represented as follows:

(*<Jacque >, < is >, < Associate_Professor >*)

The second one is represented as follows:

(*<Associate_Professor>, < defined_according_to >, <University_Education >*)

In this case, the object of the first triplet represents the subject of the second triplet. This example will be represented in VP-RDF (see Fig. 2).

This case is represented by a graph that is composed of an RDF triplet and a VP-RDF triplet.

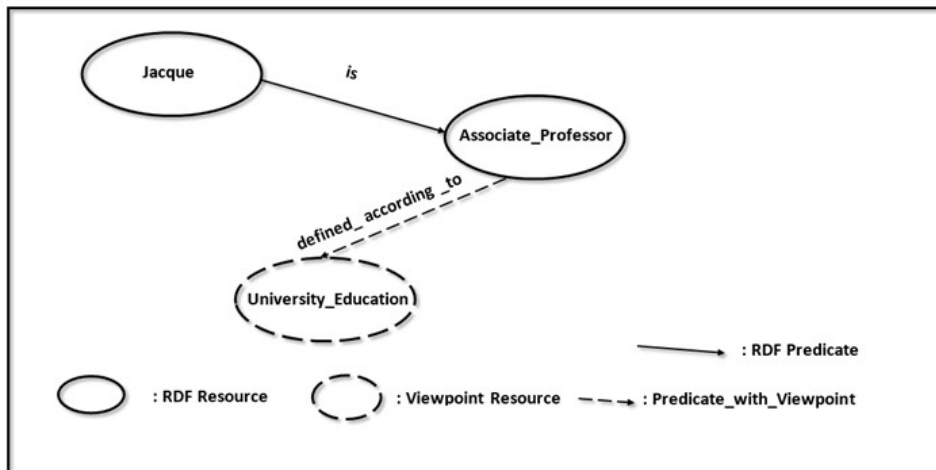


Fig. 2. RDF graph representation of an example of Case 3: a resource has a property with a resource. The latter is linked to a viewpoint.

D. Case 4: A Resource, Which Is Linked to a Given Viewpoint, Has a Property with Another Resource. The Latter Is Linked to Another Viewpoint

Example: In the real estate domain, the resource “*Rich_Tenant*” that appears in the *Finance* viewpoint lives in a “*Large_Apartment*”. The latter is defined in the *Size* viewpoint. This case is represented in Fig. 3.

This case is represented by a graph that is composed of an RDF triplet and two VP-RDF triplets, where the subject of the RDF triplet becomes the subject of the first VP-RDF triplet and the object of the RDF triplet becomes the subject of the second VP-RDF triplet.

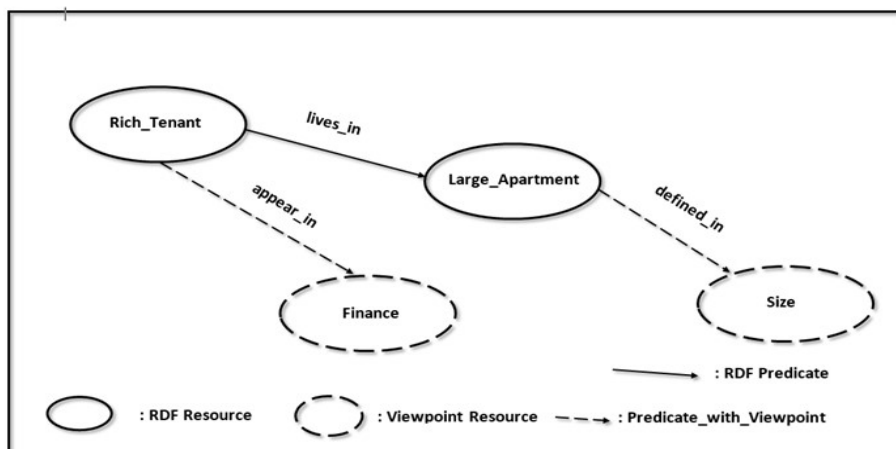


Fig. 3. RDF graph representation of an example of Case 4: a resource, which is linked to a given viewpoint, has a property with another resource. The latter is linked to another viewpoint.

E. Case 5: A Resource That Is Described by Another Resource. This Description Is Defined According to a Given Viewpoint

Example: In the real estate domain, the resource “Johan” lives_in a “Large_Apartment” under the Size viewpoint.

In this case, the predicate “lives_in” is defined according to the Size viewpoint. To represent this case, first, it is necessary

to create a class to represent the predicate “lives_in”. Case 5 is demonstrated in Fig. 4.

This case represents a relation between an RDF predicate and a viewpoint.

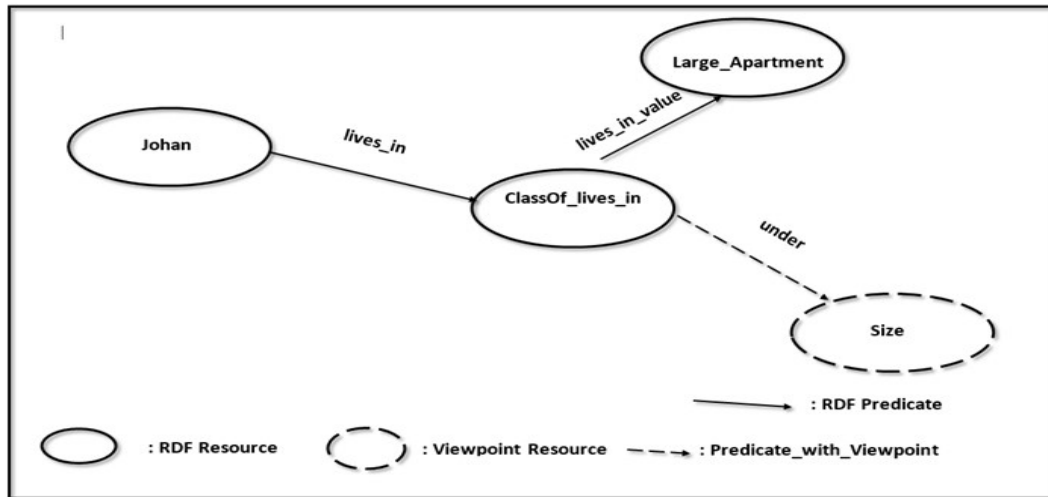


Fig. 4. RDF graph representation of an example of Case 5: a resource that is described by another resource. This description is defined according to a given viewpoint.

V. QUERYING OF VP-RDF DESCRIPTIONS

SPARQL (Protocol and RDF Query Language) is a query language that allows querying the RDF data [11] via SPARQL queries. Each query represents a set of triplet patterns [11]. The subject, the predicate and the object of the SPARQL triplets can be variables [11].

In this section, we present an example of VP-RDF data querying using the SPARQL language.

We take the example of the VP-RDF document of the real estate domain. This document comports the list of descriptions of resources, by taking into the consideration the viewpoints, in real estate domain, where Case 1 (in the previous section) represents an extract of this document. Below, we present an example (as demonstration) of the SPARQL query of this extract.

```

PREFIX rdf:<http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-
ns#>
PREFIX rdfs:http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#
PREFIX VPrdf:< http:// vprdf-syntaxe#>
PREFIX VPdescription:<http:// VPdescription />
SELECT ?Viewpoint
WHERE
{ <http:// VPdescription / Large Apartment #>
<http:// VPdescription / defined_ according _to #>
? Viewpoint }

```

This query allows finding a viewpoint, where a given RDF resource is defined. The result of this query is the value “Size”.

Remarks:

- `http:// vprdf-syntaxe` represents the URI of the VP-RDF elements proposed in Section 3.
- `http:// VPdescription /` represents the URI of the VP-RDF document save location.

VI. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section comprises four subsections. The first one allows showing the place of our work in the literature. In the second subsection, we prove that the set of the VP-RDF elements is satisfied and they are consistent and not redundant with the set of RDF elements. We present the goal of the choice to extend RDF in the third subsection. In the last subsection, we represent the performance of the proposed VP-RDF.

A. Place of the VP-RDF in the Literature

In this subsection, we show the place of our work in the literature. Therefore, we compare our work with the existing studies.

Several approaches have exploited RDF without extension to describe the resources. In [41], [42], the authors have presented metadata in RDF. Ashkpour *et al.* [43] have proposed a specific approach and model for creating an interlinked census dataset on the Semantic Web using the RDF. Sen *et al.* [44] are interested in the integration of meta-knowledge on the Web of data using RDF. In [45], the authors propose an algorithm of semantic relation recognition for natural language query over

RDF data. Fan *et al.* [46] have proposed a fuzzy RDF(S) storage schema with fuzzy HBase databases (FHDBs). These approaches have not taken the notion of viewpoint into consideration.

Trichet, Aimé and Thovex in [47] presented a platform. In this platform, each user can use one or more ontologies to generate their annotation according to their own viewpoint. Then, a user represents annotation in RDF triplet. This platform allows taking multiple viewpoints and multiple users into consideration, but the notion of the viewpoint cannot appear clearly in the RDF representation.

In our work, the element viewpoint, Predicate_with_Viewpoint and VP-RDF statement allow representing clearly the notion of the viewpoint.

Other works have proposed extending RDF with contexts (e.g., in [19]–[24]).

In these works, the goal is to represent that an assertion is true only under a certain set of conditions (contexts). However, our goal is to represent explicitly the relation between a resource and a viewpoint and the relation between a predicate and a viewpoint. Moreover, the notion of the viewpoint is different from the notion of the context.

On the other hand, in order to represent the context, some works (e.g., [21] and [22]) have extended RDF by adding a new component to the RDF triple. In this case, the RDF context statement becomes quadruplet. The existing RDF query tools cannot query a quadruplet structure. Therefore, some authors have also proposed an extension of the SPARQL (e.g., [19]).

However, VP-RDF, that we propose, keeps the triplet structure like RDF. Therefore, the query languages (e.g., SPARQL) can query it.

B. Proving of the Satisfiability, Consistency and Nonredundancy of the VP-RDF Elements

VP-RDF is considered an extension of RDF by adding new elements. Therefore, it is necessary to prove the satisfiability of the new elements and to demonstrate that these elements do not generate inconsistency and redundancy.

In order to prove the satisfiability of an element, it is necessary to find that the set of instances of this element is different from the empty set (\emptyset).

$C_{viewpoint}$, $C_{predicate_with_viewpoint}$ and $C_{statement}$ are the sets of instances of the elements VPrdf:Viewpoint, VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint, and VPrdf:Statement, respectively. We have seen in the use cases some examples of instances of the elements: VPrdf:Viewpoint, VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint and VPrdf:Statement. For example, in the real estate domain:

$$C_{viewpoint} = \{Size, Finance, Localisation, \dots\} \Rightarrow C_{viewpoint} \neq \emptyset;$$

$$C_{predicate_with_viewpoint} = \{defined_according_to, under, \dots\} \\ \Rightarrow C_{predicate_with_viewpoint} \neq \emptyset;$$

$$C_{statement} = \{ \langle Large_Apartment \rangle, \langle defined_in \rangle, \langle Size \rangle, \dots \} \\ \Rightarrow C_{statement} \neq \emptyset.$$

Thus, we have proven the satisfiability of the new elements.

$C_{rdfs:Resource}$, $C_{rdf:Property}$ and $C_{rdf:Statement}$ are the sets of instances of the elements rdfs:Resource, rdf:Property and rdf:Statement, respectively.

The elements VPrdf:Viewpoint, VPrdf:Predicate_with_Viewpoint, and VPrdf:Statement are the subclasses of rdfs:Resource, rdf:Property and rdf:Statement, respectively.

$$(C_{viewpoint} \subset C_{rdfs:Resource}) \leftrightarrow (\forall i, i \in C_{viewpoint} \\ \rightarrow i \in C_{rdfs:Resource}).$$

Each viewpoint is an RDF resource, but not all RDF resources are viewpoints. Thus, there are RDF resources that are not viewpoints. The site of the viewpoints represents a specification of the set of the RDF resources. Therefore, the element vprdf:viewpoint does not generate inconsistency (contradiction) or redundancy.

$$(C_{predicate_with_viewpoint} \subset C_{rdf:Property}) \leftrightarrow \\ (\forall i, i \in C_{predicate_with_viewpoint} \rightarrow i \in C_{rdf:Property}).$$

Every predicate_with_viewpoint is an RDF property that allows linking a resource to a viewpoint (the viewpoint should be only an object of the property predicate_with_viewpoint). Not all predicates are predicate_with_viewpoint. Therefore, the element vprdf:predicate_with_viewpoint does not generate inconsistency or redundancy.

$$(C_{statement} \subset C_{rdf:Statement}) \leftrightarrow \\ (\forall i, i \in C_{statement} \rightarrow i \in C_{rdf:Statement}).$$

VP-RDF statement keeps the triplet structure of RDF statements (subject, predicate, object). The VP-RDF subject is an RDF resource that is different from viewpoints. The VP-RDF predicate is an instance of vprdf:predicate_with_viewpoint. The VP-RDF object is an instance of vprdf:viewpoint. Therefore, the element vprdf:statement does not generate inconsistency or redundancy.

We have proven that VP-RDF is an extension of RDF by adding new elements, which do not generate inconsistency and redundancy.

C. Proving the Choice of the RDF

We will explain the choice of RDF. Hemam and Boufaida [15] proposed MVP-OWL as an extension of OWL to represent the notion of viewpoint within the ontology. Existing tools for the manipulation of ontologies cannot exploit the MVP-OWL elements.

The query languages (e.g., SPARQL) can query VP-RDF data. This shows the reason to start introducing the viewpoint on the low level (i.e., RDF).

OWL is a language that represents the ontologies. The ontology allows describing the semantics of a given domain. The ontologies can be used to describe the semantic of resources via semantic annotation techniques. However, semantic annotations of resources on the web are represented in either RDF or XML.

All typical cases of a large linked dataset are available in RDF (e.g., DBpedia that makes the content of Wikipedia).

On the other hand, users do not need to rely on complex technologies (e.g., OWL); they simply describe resources into RDF using its vocabulary [48]. Making use of property hierarchies to regroup properties and using higher concept properties and classes when selecting specific information are very complex tasks for users. Therefore, users avoid using description based on the capabilities of RDFS and OWL. These reasons have made us propose extending RDF.

RDF represents the foundation for other technologies, including OWL. Therefore, if we can introduce the viewpoint in RDF, it will be easy to exploit the viewpoint in OWL, OWL2, RDFa, etc. Since RDFS and OWL are based on RDF elements, they will be based on VP-RDF elements as well. Thus, the capabilities of RDFS and OWL will be augmented.

D. Performance of the VP-RDF

VP-RDF, which we propose, allows representing explicitly the relation between a resource and a viewpoint and the relation between a property and a viewpoint. This explicit representation facilitates the user to express the viewpoint without complication or confusion.

SPARQL does not support any reasoning mechanism. The user will program the reasoning at the generation of the requests (i.e., the user must form a “smart” request). Therefore, the user must know the structure of the RDF graph of the document. However, a majority of users do not know the structure of the RDF graph of the web resources (e.g., the users of the Wikipedia do not know the structure of the DBpedia). Thus, SPARQL cannot find the viewpoint in the RDF documents because it does not support any reasoning mechanism. However, SPARQL does not need reasoning on VP-RDF document to find the viewpoint because VP-RDF allows representing explicitly the viewpoint.

The user can mention the viewpoint in the request on the VP-RDF documents. Then, SPARQL can select the responses that are linked directly to this viewpoint because VP-RDF allows representing explicitly the relations between the viewpoint and resources and the relations between predicates and the viewpoint. Intelligent systems on the web can detect the user’s viewpoint from their requests via the several techniques, such as machine learning. Then, SPARQL can select the responses from the VP-RDF documents that are relevant to the user’s interests. Therefore, VP-RDF helps intelligent systems serve the user.

Let us refer to the example of the real estate site; a user wants to know all the existing properties of an apartment that describe its size.

In VP-RDF, the properties (e.g., height, area, the number of rooms, etc.) are linked directly to the viewpoint *size*. Thus,

SPARQL provides the user with only properties of this apartment that are linked to the viewpoint *size* (i.e., height, area, the number of rooms, etc.). SPARQL does not provide the user with the properties: price, rent, location, etc. Therefore, the responses are relevant to the user’s interests.

However, in the RDF data querying, SPARQL provides the user with all the properties of this apartment because RDF cannot show that such properties are linked to the viewpoint *size*.

Thus, the search with VP-RDF is limited only to the properties of this apartment that are linked to the viewpoint *size*. Response time of the VP-RDF data querying can be optimised.

VII. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have proposed VP-RDF as an extension of RDF by adding new elements that allow introducing explicitly the viewpoint in the description of the resources and their relationships. These new elements are satisfied and they do not generate inconsistency and redundancy with the RDF elements.

The VP-RDF statement that allows linking a resource to a viewpoint keeps the triplet structure. This structure allows the query languages (e.g., SPARQL) to query efficaciously the VP-RDF graphs.

VP-RDF allows representing explicitly the relation between a resource and a viewpoint and the relation between a property and a viewpoint. This characteristic allows the user to easily create their description of resources by taking into consideration the viewpoint. The benefit of the integration of the viewpoint in RDF is to enable SPARQL to provide the user with responses according to their interests.

VP-RDF helps intelligent systems provide the user with relevant responses after the detection of their interests.

The VP-RDF is useful in several tasks (e.g., the multi-viewpoint semantic annotation [37], [38]).

RDF represents a foundation for other technologies of semantic web. Semantic web technologies will help various domains resolve their problems [49]. On the other hand, RDF is also the basic structure of linked data [50]. Therefore, VP-RDF will be a foundation to introduce the viewpoint in the other technologies (e.g., OWL2, RDFa, etc.).

Sen *et al.* [44] have assumed that the integration of meta-knowledge on the web of data is essential to support trustworthiness. Meta-knowledge describes how the data are generated, manipulated, and disseminated [44]. Therefore, as future work, we plan to introduce the notion of the viewpoint in the construction of meta-knowledge on the web of data.

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